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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 29 September 2015 requesting the following information:

*"I was wondering if you had any readily available figures of any injury sustained by elasticated cordage to any member of the MOD."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all of the information in scope of your request is held.

Between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2015, there were **20<sup>P</sup>** reported injuries sustained by elasticated cordage to members of MOD.

Injuries have been identified through MOD Health and Safety reporting systems. Due to the time lag in health and safety reporting, the figure presented is provisional and may change as further incidents are reported and additional information on existing injuries is received.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note the following:

Defence Statistics (Health) compiles Health and Safety statistics on behalf of Defence Safety Authority Corporate Policy and Assurance (DSA-CPA). An Official Statistic publication 'MOD Health and Safety Statistics Annual Report' is released each year and is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-health-and-safety-statistics-index>. An update to include statistics for 2014/15 will be published on 29 October 2015.

The health and safety figures have been compiled from a number of MOD reporting systems:

- Incident Recording Information System (IRIS) data are as at 29 June 2012 (system switched off on this date)
- Army Incident Notification Cell (AINC) data are as at 3 July 2015
- Accident and Incident Recording System (AIRS) data are as at 3 July 2015
- Defence Equipment & Support Incident Notification Cell (DINC) data are as at 2 July 2015
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) data are as at 6 July 2015
- Joint Forces Command (JFC) data are as at 6 July 2015
- Head Office and Corporate Services (HOCS) data are as at 3 July 2015
- Naval Service Incident Notification Cell (NSINC) data are as at 3 July 2015

Members of MOD include UK Armed Forces personnel, MOD Civilians, Cadet Forces, Cadet Force Adult Volunteers, Royal Fleet Auxiliary, Locally Employed Civilians, Foreign Forces, Directly Employed Labour and Contractors.

Injuries due to elasticated cordage have been identified using a free text search for “bungee”, “elastic” and “cord”. Any incidents returned were then manually checked to confirm whether the injury was sustained by elasticated cordage.

In line with Defence Statistics rounding policy, all figures of five or more have been rounded to the nearest five.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering Health and Safety consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing: [DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk).

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Health) Head (B1)